

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A network facsimile machine connectable to PSTN and a second network and adapted to receive fax data from a remote machine over the PSTN and deliver the fax data to recipients on the second network, the network facsimile machine comprising:

a capabilities storage unit that stores data for delivery recipients on said second network and corresponding reception capabilities for said delivery recipients; and

a communication control unit that receives delivery recipient-specifying data over the PSTN, looks up this data in said capabilities storage unit, and transmits a signal over the PSTN declaring reception capabilities of a delivery recipient specified by the recipient-specifying data.

2. The network facsimile machine of claim 1 wherein the delivery recipient-specifying data is a sub-address (SUB).

3. The network facsimile machine of claim 1 wherein the delivery recipient-specifying data is a Transmitting Subscriber Identification (TSI) signal.

4. The network facsimile machine of claim 1 wherein at least one of the delivery recipients on the second network is a terminal device.

5. The network facsimile machine of claim 1 wherein the delivery recipient specified by the recipient-specifying data is a terminal device connected to said second network.

6. The network facsimile machine of claim 2 wherein the capabilities storage unit stores addresses of the delivery recipients on the second network, the recipient-specifying data, and reception capabilities of said delivery recipients in predetermined correspondence.

7. The network facsimile machine of claim 3 wherein the capabilities storage unit stores addresses of the delivery recipients on the second network, the recipient-specifying data, and reception capabilities of said delivery recipients in predetermined relationship.

8. The network facsimile machine of claim 1 wherein at least one of the delivery recipients on the second network is an output device.

9. The network facsimile machine of claim 1 wherein the delivery recipient specified by the recipient-specifying data is an output device connected to said second network.

10. The network facsimile machine of claim 1 wherein the reception capabilities include resolution.

11. The network facsimile machine of claim 1 wherein when broadcasting to a plurality of delivery recipients on the second network, the reception capabilities of a delivery recipient with the lowest reception capability is declared.

12. The network facsimile machine of claim 1 wherein when broadcasting to a plurality of delivery recipients on the second network, the reception capabilities of a delivery recipient with the highest reception capability is declared.

13. The network facsimile machine of claim 1 wherein the second network is a

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14. A communication method for use with a network facsimile machine connected to PSTN and a second network, at least one recipient being connected to the second network, comprising the steps of:

- (A) responding to a call from a remote facsimile machine over PSTN;
- (B) receiving delivery recipient-specifying data from the remote facsimile machine over the PSTN;
- (C) determining reception capabilities of a designated delivery recipient based on the received recipient-specifying data;
- (D) transmitting a signal to the remote facsimile machine over the PSTN declaring the reception capabilities of the designated delivery recipient;
- (E) receiving facsimile data from the remote facsimile machine over the PSTN; and
- (F) delivering the received facsimile data to the designated delivery recipient over the second network.

15. The communication method of claim 14 wherein the delivery recipient-specifying data is a sub-address (SUB).

16. The communication method of claim 14 wherein the delivery recipient-specifying data is a TSI signal.

17. The communication method of claim 14 wherein the designated delivery recipient is a terminal device connected to said second network.

18. The communication method of claim 14 wherein the designated delivery recipient is an output device connected to said second network.

19. The communication method of claim 14 wherein the reception capabilities

include resolution.

20. The communication method of claim 14 wherein when a plurality of delivery recipients are designated by the recipient-specifying data at step B, reception capabilities of each of the plurality of delivery recipients are determined at step C, and a signal declaring the reception capabilities of a delivery recipient with the lowest reception capabilities is transmitted to the remote facsimile machine over the PSTN at step D.